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ClearCase LT

Larry Lee

The Information Technology Department (ITD) has implemented a new version control system called ClearCase LT. It replaces a similar product called PVCS. ClearCase LT provides software developers with the following capabilities:

- A way to manage and deploy software releases.
- A way to control fixes to software.
- A way to maintain a history of software modifications.
- Parallel development, which allows a group of developers to efficiently design, code, test, and enhance software from a common code base.

About twenty developers are currently using ClearCase LT to manage their PowerBuilder and Java files. Eventually most of the ITD development staff will use the product.

J2EE Training

Vern Welder

ITD Software Developers will soon complete an intense Java Version 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE) training and mentoring program. This training prepares developers to design, write, and implement e-government applications. The "Fast Track to J2EE" program included training and mentoring in Object Oriented Analysis and Design, Rational Unified Process, and Java. Sixteen developers have been trained in J2EE development plus eight are trained in Java programming. During the training and mentoring process, four e-government applications will be developed for state agencies.

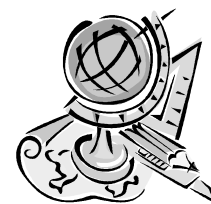
North Dakota Receives GIS Award

Vern Welder

North Dakota was awarded the Special Achievements in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) award at a recent Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) conference. North Dakota's State GIS Hub was one of 150 chosen from 100,000 ESRI software sites around the world.

This award was given in recognition of the work that is being done by the State GIS Technical Committee, which is composed of representatives from the Department of Transportation, Department of Health, State Water Commission, Parks and Recreation, Information Technology Department, Geological Survey, Game and Fish, and the Department of Commerce.

The agencies within the GIS Technical Committee pooled their time, talent, and data to construct the State GIS Hub which will be completed in October. Check out the State GIS Hub at <http://discovernd.com/gis>



Don't Dial That Number!

Dorothy Vetter

We have heard much about phone fraud in recent years and this article is just one more reminder that it's still out there, probably more than ever before. And the people doing this are more knowledgeable and smarter than ever before too – and getting better all the time.

AT&T recently contacted the Information Technology Department (ITD) to alert us of a potential fraud attempt in which a very convincing "telephone technician" called a number within the State Capitol and convinced the employee that he was working on some network trouble and it was imperative that he be transferred to an outside number – more importantly, an international number.

Through AT&T's sophisticated fraud detection system, and because the country being attempted was known as a high-fraud area, AT&T took immediate action to block the call, saving the State from a toll fraud incident.

ITD makes every attempt to protect our telephone systems from most types of phone fraud or hacker attempts, but that does not guarantee that we can't be hit by these types of "employee-assisted" fraud attempts. In most cases, the only way a hacker can access a dial tone through one of our state systems is by convincing a state employee to dial the numbers he/she is being given. **Please notify all state employees that no matter how convincing the person on the line may sound, if they are not aware of exactly who the caller is and what they want, they should not transfer the caller to an outside line – especially to 9 + 1 or 9 + 011.** If you or somebody in your office receives a call like this, ask the person's name and the company he/she is working for, then ask for a number where they can be reached after the information is verified. Then, hang up and call ITD at 328-4470 to notify us of the attempt.

IT Investments Paying Big Dividends

Rob Gall

"In the last five years, North Dakota has invested heavily in technology, and these investments are starting to pay significant dividends to citizens statewide," Governor Hoeven stated in a press release on September 10, 2002. "Today, information technology is driving the major functions of government and transforming the way we do business."

The state's IT investments are quantified in the first Information Technology Department (ITD) annual report. The report was requested by the Legislature and released in early September. It includes a summary of the state IT planning and oversight process, a status report on large technology projects, a description of major benefits the state is realizing from IT investments, and a review of ITD performance.

We titled the report "Building Connections" because the phrase best characterizes ITD's role in partnering with government and education to develop technology solutions.



In the report, we attempt to communicate some of the benefits gained through the use of information technology. Examples include the completion of the statewide network infrastructure and better statewide planning and communication processes like enterprise architecture.

The publication is "must read" material. Too often the push to get projects done slightes our opportunities to reflect on what has been accomplished. North Dakota IT professionals are "Building Connections" throughout state government and, in the process, we are creating more efficient, sensible, and convenient programs and services.

"Building Connections" is available online at <http://discovernd.com/itd/pubs/doc/itd-2002-full.pdf>. A limited number of hard copies are available. For more information, contact me or Mike Ressler.

Innovative Technology Forum: "The Future of Wireless Applications in North Dakota"

Dennis Klipfel

The IT Planning Division of the Information Technology Department (ITD) hosted the second Innovative Technology Forum (ITF) on September 11 at the North Dakota Heritage Center Auditorium.

ITF programs are presented as information sharing rather than technical discussions on specific technology issues and events. The programs are organized as a means of addressing enterprise issues or hot topics and are directed at agency directors, management, and agency technology personnel. However, everyone is invited to attend.

The September 11 program presented issues and applications on wireless technology. Wireless technology is hailed as the ultimate connectivity solution for the highly mobile user and remote or small systems. Wireless is an option for organizational consideration, but it comes with additional security and support issues that must be thoroughly evaluated before implementation.

Nancy Walz served as the panel moderator. The panel included the following individuals:

Jerry Fossum, ITD

Setting Expectation Levels Regarding Wireless Technology

Warren Hight, SRT Communications, Inc.

Wireless Infrastructure – Making it Happen

Dave Kleppe, ND Highway Patrol

North Dakota Mobile Data Communication System for Public Safety

Dave Sprynczynatyk, Department of Transportation

Traveling the Wireless Highway

Deb Best, Hewlett Packard - Global Services

Innovative Mobility Solutions

Dean Glatt, ITD

Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) Deployment Concerns

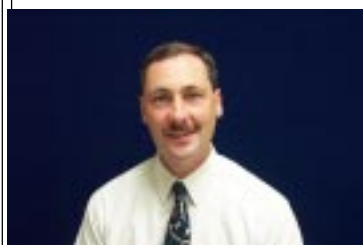
Joe Tykwinski, Valley City State University

WLANs in Higher Education: Issues and Applications

Curt Wolfe, ITD

Wrap Up

This forum was webcast live on September 11, 2002 and the archived program can be accessed on the Innovative Technology Forum page of the Enterprise Architecture web



ITD EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Name: John Wohl

Job Title: Senior Programmer Analyst

Section of ITD: Software Development

Job Responsibilities: State's technical project manager for the ConnectND Project.

Years at ITD: 16 years

site at <http://discovernd.com/ea/forums/>. It can be viewed in its entirety or each individual speaker can be selected by topic from the drop-down menu shown below the video screen.

North Dakota's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Implementation Project

Jean Ostrom-Blonigen, ConnectND Project Communication Manager

What is ConnectND?

The CONNECT ND project is the implementation of *PeopleSoft's* ERP system that will replace North Dakota's current administrative computer systems. The ERP system will serve as the administrative systems for the entire enterprise – from students to employees to financial management.

Who is involved in ConnectND?

All of North Dakota State Government, including the North Dakota University System, is involved this project.

Why is ConnectND happening?

It is time to replace the state's aging administrative systems, some which were first put into operation 20 years ago. In implementing a single statewide system across higher education and state government, we have an enormous opportunity to do something that no other state has done. We can do this because both state government and higher education already have unified administrative systems and because we have a proven track record of working with each other.

How is ConnectND being implemented?

Under the leadership of a State Executive Steering Committee and with the help of our implementation partner, *MAXIMUS*, the project is being implemented using a five-phased approach:

1. Initiation – Complete
2. Design – Through 9/27/02 (Includes: Business Process Review/Analysis, Prototyping, and Functional Testing)
3. Development – 9/2/02 to 11/15/02 (Includes: Conversions, Interfaces, Reports, and System Testing)
4. Migration – 11/11/02 to 3/3/03 (Includes: Acceptance Testing, End-User Training, and Production Planning)
5. Post Production – 4/28/03 to 8/29/03 (Includes: Production Support)

What is the current status of the ConnectND project?

In their September 13, 2002 report, the Project Oversight team reported that:

- The overall project is on time and on budget,
- Most of the open issues have been resolved,
- Project Deliverables are on track, and
- There are no scope issues or risks impeding the project at this time.



When will ConnectND be implemented?

Implementation will begin at the Mayville State University and Valley City State University pilot sites within the next couple months.

The estimated timeline for those two institutions is as follows:

- Campus Community Planning Live – October 7, 2002
- Campus Portal Live – October 7, 2002
- Recruiting Live – October 7, 2002
- Admissions Live – October 7, 2002
- Other Student Administration Systems Live – April 2003
- Financial System Live – April 2003
- Human Resource System Live – April 2003

The Office of Management and Budget, the state's pilot site, is also scheduled to begin running certain systems (e.g., payroll) by April 2003. The entire statewide implementation for the remaining agencies and institutions is scheduled to be complete by the third quarter of 2004.

Has end-user training been scheduled?

End-user training for Mayville State University and Valley City State University pilot sites as related to Campus Portal, Recruiting, and Admissions is currently underway. Additional end-user training will continue to be scheduled using a just-in-time approach.

Where do I get more information on the ConnectND project?

For additional information concerning the ConnectND project, visit the project web site at <http://www.nodak.edu/connectnd> or contact Jean Ostrom-Blonigen at 701-231-9413 or by e-mail at Jean.Ostrom-blonigen@ndsu.nodak.edu

Online Electronic UCC and CNS Filings

Cory Fong, Deputy Secretary of State

Secretary of State Al Jaeger announced that lenders and agricultural creditors would soon be able to file Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) and Central Notice System (CNS) filings electronically with the county recorders and his office. Known as direct filing, the service is available to customers for a subscription fee and represents another step taken by Jaeger's office to promote e-government.

"Everyday we move a little bit closer to electronic government," said Jaeger. "Direct filing of UCC and CNS filings is a cost effective, web-based business tool that makes doing business with government easier, faster, and more convenient for our customers. It just makes good sense."

In the last two years, Jaeger's office has deployed other web-based tools for businesses, including a search of the agency's nearly 85,000 business records that provides instantaneous, 24-hour, seven day-a-week access to customers. "All together, these advancements demonstrate that the Secretary of State's office is moving ahead with technology solutions that will directly impact and benefit our customers and North Dakota businesses," said Jaeger.

Jaeger credits the state's Information Technology Department (ITD) for providing the technical expertise and support for the project. "ITD has been instrumental in making these projects happen. They are a valuable partner," said Jaeger. "We will be counting on ITD as we move forward towards the next phases of e-government development in our office."



ITD Executive Management

Curtis Wolfe, *Chief Information Officer*

Mike Ressler, *Director of Operations*

Nancy Walz, *Associate Director of IT Planning*

Dan Sipes, *Associate Director of Administrative Services*

Vern Welder, *Associate Director of Software Development Services*

Dean Glatt, *Associate Director of Computer Services*

Jerry Fossum, *Associate Director of Telecommunication Services*

Ardy Pfaff, *Human Resources Director*

INFORMATION LINK is published quarterly by the North Dakota Information Technology Department. Contact the editor if you are interested in contributing information or would like to be added to the mailing list.

North Dakota Information Technology Department

600 East Boulevard Ave Dept 112

Bismarck, ND 58505-0100

(701) 328-3190 FAX: (701) 328-3000

1-800-366-6888 TTY 1-800-366-6889 VOICE

<http://discovernd.com/itd/>

Editor:

Becky Lingle

INFORMATION LINK
Information Technology Department
600 E Boulevard Ave Dept 112
Bismarck, ND 58505-0100